

# **Prospective Disease-Specific Priority Setting**

Establishing Disease-Specific Strategic  
Frameworks to Guide Concept  
Development and Evaluation

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# **Disease-Specific Priority Setting Principles**

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- **Set strategic priorities for NCTN trials in advance**
- **Majority of concepts expected to align with strategic priorities**
- **Trial concepts outside strategic priorities still considered, but may require additional justification**
- **NCTN Groups responsible for concept development**
- **Steering Committees continue to evaluate all concepts rigorously for scientific and clinical quality regardless of alignment with strategic priorities**

# **Process for Setting Disease-Specific Strategic Priorities**

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- **Assess strategic clinical trials landscape within the disease to identify gaps and provide context**
- **Discuss strategic priorities under the aegis of the Steering Committees**
  - NCTN Groups propose strategic priorities for discussion, ideally with cross-Group collaboration
  - Outside input solicited as needed
- **Goal to select a few major priorities for each disease**
- **Priorities reviewed annually and revised as needed**

# **NCI Support for Setting Disease-Specific Strategic Priorities**

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- **Collaborative process with full involvement of relevant NCTN Groups and SCs**
- **Process flexible and implemented somewhat differently for different diseases**
- **NCI to provide additional administrative support**
- **Process may be conducted using standard SC monthly conference calls, additional ad hoc calls, and/or in-person meetings**
- **Final Prospective *Strategic Priority Setting* document due to NCI June 15, 2015**
- **Priorities reviewed by NCTN Groups and SCs annually and revised as needed through a collaborative process**

# **Periodic Strategic Assessment of Scientific Steering Committee Portfolios**

# CTAC Input - July 2014

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- **Periodic assessment of trial portfolios would be valuable**
  - Provides essential feedback to the Steering Committees & Groups/Research Bases
  - Ensures that trials address the strategic priorities established for the portfolios
- **General support for “self-assessment” by the Steering Committees augmented with additional NCTN Group/NCORP Research Base portfolio experts**
- **Portfolio-specific assessments by SCs should be subject to a higher level review across portfolios by an oversight group (e.g., CTAC Subcommittee or Working Group including the NCTN Group Chairs)**
- **The next strategic assessment of all portfolios should begin 3-5 years from the initial NCTN WG review**

# Overarching Principles for Periodic Strategic Assessment

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- **Next portfolio-specific assessments performed by Steering Committees augmented with additional Group/Research Base portfolio experts as needed**
  - Begins in 2016
  - Assessment process sets the stage for a comprehensive examination of strategic priorities across portfolios
- **Oversight assessment group under auspices of CTAC performs two functions**
  - Analyzes quality of the SC portfolio-specific assessments
  - Performs cross-portfolio analysis
- **Cross-portfolio analysis could include the following**
  - Overall cross-portfolio quality
  - Cross-portfolio recommendations
  - Value of the assessment process
  - Recommendations for future assessments
- **Potential members of CTAC assessment group: CTAC Strategic Planning Subcommittee members plus Group Chairs/Statisticians**